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国内外经典教材辅导系列·英语类

# 陶洁 《美国文学选读》

(第3版)

## 笔记和课后习题(含考研真题)详解

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## 内 容 提 要

本书是英美文学经典教材《美国文学选读》(第3版)(陶洁主编,高等教育出版社)的学习辅导书。全书完全遵循该教材的章目编排,共分为27单元,每单元由三部分组成:第一部分为复习笔记(中英文对照),总结本章的重点难点;第二部分是课后习题详解;第三部分为考研真题与典型题详解,精选名校近年考研真题及相关习题,并提供了详细的参考答案。

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# 序 言

我国各大院校一般都把国内外通用的权威教科书作为本科生和研究生学习专业课程的参考教材，这些教材甚至被很多考试(特别是硕士和博士入学考试)和培训项目作为指定参考书。为了帮助读者更好地学习专业课，我们有针对性地编著了一套与国内外教材配套的复习资料，并提供配套的名师讲堂和题库。

《美国文学选读》(第3版)(陶洁主编，高等教育出版社)一直被用作高等院校英语专业英美文学教材，被许多院校指定为英语专业考研必读书和学术研究参考书。作为该教材的学习辅导书，本书具有以下几个方面的特点：

1. 梳理章节脉络，浓缩内容精华。每章的复习笔记以该教材为主并结合其他教材对本章的重难点知识进行了整理，并参考了国内名校名师讲授该教材的课堂笔记，因此，本书的内容几乎浓缩了经典教材的知识精华。

2. 中英双语对照，凸显难点要点。本书章节笔记采用了中英文对照的形式，强化对重要难点知识的理解和运用。

3. 解析课后习题，提供详尽答案。本书对陶洁主编的《美国文学选读》(第3版)每章的课后思考题均进行了详细的分析和解答，并对相关重要知识点进行了延伸和归纳。

4. 精选考研真题，补充难点习题。本书精选名校近年考研真题及相关习题，并提供答案和详解。所选真题和习题基本体现了各个章节的考点和难点，但又不完全局限于教材内容，是对教材内容极好的补充。

与本书相配套，圣才考研网提供陶洁《美国文学选读》网授精讲班【教材精讲+考研真题串讲】、3D电子书、3D题库。

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# 第1单元 本杰明·富兰克林

## 1.1 复习笔记

### I. Introduction to author

Benjamin Franklin (1706—1790) was a rare genius in human history. He became everything: a printer, postmaster, almanac maker, essayist, scientist, inventor, orator, statesman, philosopher, political economist, ambassador —“Jack of all trades.”

#### 1. Life

He was born into a poor family. He was a voracious reader. At 16 he published essays under the pseudonym Silence Dogood. At 17 he ran away to Philadelphia to make his own fortune. He became a printer. He helped found the Pennsylvania Hospital, an academy which led to the University of Pennsylvania, and the American Philosophical Society. He was a preeminent scientist of his day. He signed the *Declaration of Independence*. He was one of the makers of the new nation.

#### 2. Major works

*Poor Richard's Almanac* (1732)

*The Autobiography* (1771—1790)

### II. Selected works

#### ◆ *The Autobiography*

##### 1. Main content

It depicted the background of Benjamin Franklin, including his studying in his young age and his experiences of work. And his achievement in politics, science and economy were also mentioned in this book.

There are four parts in this book. The first part is the experiences of his first 25 years of his life. The second part, written in Paris, is the accomplishments on science and the cause of public affairs. The third and fourth part, written in Philadelphia, is the record of his life from 25 to 51-year-old.

### I. 作者简介

本杰明·富兰克林(1706—1790)是人类历史上少有的天才。他是出版家、邮政总长、历书作者、散文家、科学家、发明家、演说家、政治家、哲学家、政治经济学家、大使等等。

#### 1. 生平

富兰克林出生于一个贫穷的家庭。他非常勤奋好学。16岁时开始以笔名“静行善”发表评论文章。17岁时只身逃往费城谋生。后成为出版商。他帮助建立了宾夕法尼亚大学的前身——宾夕法尼亚医学院和北美哲学学会。他也是当时著名的科学家。他签署过《独立宣言》。他是美国的缔造者之一。

#### 2. 主要作品

《穷理查历书》/《格言历书》

《自传》

### II. 选读作品

#### ◆《自传》

##### 1. 主要内容

这本书主要记叙了本杰明的成长经历,包括年少时读书还有工作经历。书中也讲述了他在政治、科学及经济领域取得的成就。

本书共有四部分。第一部分讲述了他一生前25年的经历。第二部分写于巴黎,侧重描写在科学上的成就及他所从事的公共事业。第三四两部分写于费城,先后记叙了他从25岁至51岁的生活。

## 2. Comments

(1) *The Autobiography* was probably the first of its kind in literature. It is the simple yet immensely fascinating record of a man rising to wealth and fame from a state of poverty and obscurity into which he was born, the faithful account of the colorful career of American's first self-made man. He represented in America all its ideas, that man is basically good and free by nature, endowed by God with certain inalienable rights of liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Through telling a success story of self-reliance, the book celebrates the fulfillment of the American dream.

(2) *The Autobiography* is also an eloquent elucidation of the fact that Franklin was a spokesman for the new order of eighteenth-century enlightenment. It is also a Puritan document. It is a record of self-examination and self-improvement. The book is also a convincing illustration of the Puritan ethic that, in order to get on in the world, one has to be industrial, frugal and prudent.

(3) The style of *The Autobiography* reveals that it is the pattern of Puritan simplicity, directness and concision.

## 2. 赏析

(1)《自传》是自传体文学中的上乘佳作。它简明而极其引人入胜地叙述了富兰克林由穷苦卑微而跃至富有、闻名的故事。它忠实地记录了美国第一位自力更生者光辉灿烂的职业生涯。他代表着在美国,人的本质是善良自由的,拥有上帝赋予的不可剥夺的自由及追求幸福的权利。该书通过讲述自力更生而获取成功的故事,歌颂了美国梦的实现。

(2)《自传》充分说明了富兰克林是18世纪美国启蒙运动的代言人。这也是一本清教文献。它记录了清教徒的自我反省和自我完善。它也是清教道德原则的最好说明,为了取得成功,人必须勤劳、简朴、谨慎。

(3)《自传》的文体体现出清教徒朴素、直爽、简洁的风格。

## 1.2 课后习题详解

1. Why did Franklin write his Autobiography?
2. What made Franklin decide to leave the brother to whom he had been apprenticed?
3. How did he arrive in Philadelphia?
4. What features do you find in the style of the above selection?

### 参考答案

1. Because when he was young, he has never had a pleasure in obtaining any anecdotes of his ancestors, and he held that it was a great pity because he was curious about them. So, he thought that his son would also want to know the story of him and he himself also had responsibility to share it with his son. In addition, he thought that his experiences and success would give some useful advice to his son. With such consideration in mind, Franklin wrote his autobiography.
2. The altercation between Franklin and his brother made him decide to leave. His brother considered himself as Franklin's master and treated him harshly and tyrannically. This kind of treatment annoyed Franklin, so he decided to leave.
3. He arrived in Philadelphia with great difficulties. At the very start, he set out in a boat for Am-

boy, and in crossing the bay he, along with his companions, met with a squall that tore the rotten sails to pieces and drove him upon Long Island. On approaching the island, they had to drop anchor and swim out their cable towards the shore, etc. In a word, he went through many hardships on the way to Philadelphia.

4. This selection is written in the form of letters to his son. By this way, it can show the author's honesty and frankness, which will make the reader stand close to him and actually feel and understand his emotions and experiences. Another feature is that this biography has a good narrative and reads like a story, which can arouse the readers' reading interest and curiosity.

### 1.3 考研真题与典型题详解

#### I. Fill in the blanks.

1. If we say Jonathan Edwards represents the upper levels of the American mind, \_\_\_\_\_ represents the lower levels.
2. In his autobiography, \_\_\_\_\_ creates the image of a self-made man and demonstrates his belief that the new world of America was a land of \_\_\_\_\_ which might be met through hard work and wise management. (天津外国语 2011 研)
3. Franklin's claim to a place in literature rests chiefly on his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Benjamin Franklin's best writing is found in his masterpiece \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Franklin was the epitome of the \_\_\_\_\_, the versatile, practical embodiment of national man in the 18th century.

#### II. Multiple Choice

1. The first symbol of self-made American man is \_\_\_\_\_. (北二外 2009 研)  
A. George Washington  
B. Washington Irving  
C. Thomas Jefferson  
D. Benjamin Franklin
2. Benjamin Franklin is not merely an outstanding politician, a talented inventor but also a famed literary giant. His autobiography set the example of practicing \_\_\_\_\_ moral disciplines which gave profound influences as the national spirit. (北二外 2007 研)  
A. Quaker's  
B. Puritan  
C. Anglican Christian  
D. Easter's
3. "God help them that help themselves" is found in \_\_\_\_\_'s work.  
A. Paine  
B. Franklin  
C. Freneau  
D. Jefferson
4. The secular ideals of the American Enlightenment were exemplified in the life and career of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Thomas Hood  
B. Benjamin Franklin  
C. Thomas Jefferson  
D. George Washington
5. From 1732 to 1758, Benjamin Franklin wrote and published his famous \_\_\_\_\_, an annual collection of proverbs.  
A. *The Autobiography*  
B. *Poor Richard's Almanac*  
C. *Common Sense*  
D. *The General Magazine*

### III. Explain the following term.

The literary form of autobiography(北二外 2008 研)

### IV. Read the following quotation and answer the questions.

It was about this time I conceived the bold and arduous project of arriving at moral perfection. I wished to live without committing any fault at any time; I would conquer all that either natural inclination, custom, or company might lead me into. As I knew, or thought I knew, what was right and wrong, I did not see why I might not always do the one and avoid the other. But I soon found I had undertaken a task of more difficulty than I had imagined. While my care was employed in guarding against one fault, I was often surprised by another; habit took the advantage of inattention; inclination was sometimes too strong for reason. I concluded, at length, that the mere speculative conviction that it was our interest to be completely virtuous was not sufficient to prevent our slipping; and that the contrary habits must be broken, and good ones acquired and established, before we can have any dependence on a steady, uniform rectitude of conduct. For this purpose I therefore contrived the following method.

In the various enumerations of the moral virtues I had met with in my reading, I found the catalog more or less numerous, as different writers included more or fewer ideas under the same name. Temperance, for example, was by some confined to eating and drinking, while by others it was extended to mean the moderating every other pleasure, appetite, inclination, or passion, bodily or mental, even to our avarice and ambition. I proposed to myself, for the sake of clearness, to use rather more names, with fewer ideas annexed to each, than a few names with more ideas; and I included under thirteen names of virtues all that at that time occurred to me as necessary or desirable, and annexed to each a short precept, which fully expressed the extent I gave to its meaning.

#### Questions:

1. Which work is this passage taken from?
2. Who is the author of this book?
3. What is your understanding of the book?

### V. Essay question

Analyze *The Poor Richard's Almanac*.

## 参考答案及解析

### I. Fill in the blanks.

1. Benjamin Franklin

(美国文学评论家范·威克·布鲁克斯(Van Wyck Brooks)在《美国的成年》(*America's Coming Age*)中指出乔纳森·爱德华兹和本杰明·富兰克林是美国18世纪的两们重要的哲学家,他们是不同层次思想的代表。)

2. Benjamin Franklin; opportunities

(富兰克林是美国启蒙时期与独立战争时期的代表人物。他的《自传》是美国第一部成功的传记体作品,文中树立的主人公形象激励了一代又一代的美国人去追求美国梦。)

3. *Poor Richard's Almanac*; *Autobiography*

(富兰克林在文学上的地位主要取决于《穷理查历书》和《自传》。)

#### 4. *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*

(本杰明·富兰克林文学上最大的成就体现在他的作品《本杰明·富兰克林自传》上。该书以平易的文风叙述了富兰克林艰苦创业、自学成才、坚持不懈的奋斗历程。)

#### 5. Enlightenment

(富兰克林是启蒙思想的缩影，是18世纪理性的代表。)

### II. Multiple Choice

1. D 富兰克林是第一个自力更生、白手起家的美国人的标志。
2. B 富兰克林是一位虔诚的清教徒，他的《自传》是奉行清教道德标准的典范，对塑造美国精神产生了重大影响。
3. B “自助者天助也”出自富兰克林的作品。
4. B 作为美国财富和智慧的象征，美国人民把富兰克林的头像印在100美元纸钞的正面。200多年来，这位智者的思想一直被那些希望拥有美德并过上富足生活的人们所遵循和实践着。他的个人生活和职业生涯代表了美国启蒙运动中世俗化的理想。
5. B 《穷理查历书》(*Poor Richard's Almanac*)是由美国资本主义精神最完美的代表——本杰明·富兰克林所写。该出版物从1732年至1758年不断出现。它幽默、睿智、形式奇特，通篇贯彻着人类的智慧精华，书中的名言警句与人生箴言即使在现在看来也具有很积极的作用。

### III. Explain the following term.

The literary form of autobiography: An autobiography is a person's account of his or her life. It is generally written in the first person, with the author speaking as "I". Autobiography presents life events as the writer views them, and offers insights into the beliefs and perceptions of the author.  
Representative writer: Benjamin Franklin and his work: *The Autobiography*.

### IV. Read the following quotation and answer the questions.

1. *The Autobiography*
2. Benjamin Franklin
3. ①The book is probably the first of its kind in literature. It is the simple yet immensely fascinating record of a man rising to wealth and fame from a state of poverty and obscurity in which he was born, the faithful account of the colorful career of America's first self-made man. The book contains four parts, written at different times.

②It is, first of all, a Puritan document. It is Puritan because it is a record of self-examination and self-improvement. It is also a convincing illustration of the Puritan ethic that in order to get on in the world, one has to be industrial, frugal, and prudent.

③It is also an eloquent elucidation of the fact that Franklin was spokesman for the new order of the eighteenth-century enlightenment, and that he represented in America all its ideas, that man is basically good and free by nature, endowed by God with certain inalienable rights of liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Through telling a success story of self-reliance, the book celebrates, in fact, the fulfillment of the American dream.

④The style of the book is the pattern of Puritan simplicity, directness, and concision. The lucidity of the narrative, the absence of ornaments in wording and complex, involved structures in syntax, and the Puritan abhorrence of paradox are all well graphically demonstrated here and

in the whole of the book. Taken as a whole, it is safe to say that the book is an exemplary illustration of the American style of writing.

#### **V. Essay question**

Benjamin Franklin created a character, Poor Richard, in whose name the work appeared, and whose real existence was debated humorously and seriously. For almost a quarter of a century, he kept publishing *Poor Richard's Almanac*, expanding its literary part to the intense delight of its readers.

Apart from poems and essays, he managed to put in a good many adages, and common-sense witticisms which became household words and mottos of the most typical kind. He did not always write the maxims himself. He borrowed from others and made good use of his own wit and wisdom to simplify and enrich their axiom. The practical wisdom of Franklin shone forth rays of grandeur from its pages.

# 第2单元 埃德加·爱伦·坡

## 2.1 复习笔记

### I. Introduction to author

Edgar Allan Poe (1809—1849) is a novelist, poet, and critic.

#### 1. Life

Poe's childhood was a miserable one. He lost both of his parents when still very young, and was taken care of by a wealthy merchant. Father and son enjoyed nothing but an unhappy relationship together. Poe entered the University of Virginia but did not finish. He went to West Point as a cadet but was dismissed because of misbehavior. Poe wrote and worked as editor most of his short life. He was poor all his life. At 27, he married his cousin, whose death in 1847 left him inconsolable and bitter with life than ever. He died, in October, 1849.

#### 2. Major works

##### (1) Poems:

*Tamerlane and Other Poems* (1827)

*Al Araaf* (1829)

*Poems* (1831)

*The Raven and Other Poems* (1845)

##### (2) Short stories:

*Tales of the Grotesque and the Arabesque* (1840)

*Tales* (1845)

"The Fall of the House of Usher" (1845)

"The Masque of the Red Death" (1845)

"Ligeia" (1845)

"The Black Cat" (1845)

"The Cask of Amontillado" (1845)

"Murders in the Rue Morgue" (1845)

"The Purloined Letter" (1845)

"The Gold Bug" (1845)

##### (3) Literary theory:

"The Philosophy of Composition" (1846)

"The Poetic Principle" (1850)

### I. 作者简介

埃德加·爱伦·坡(1809—1849), 小说家, 诗人, 评论家。

#### 1. 生平

坡有着悲惨的童年。他年幼时父母双亡, 被一位富商收养, 父子之间关系紧张。坡进入弗吉尼亚大学学习, 但是没能完成学业。后来去了西点军校, 却又因为行为不端而被校方开除。他短暂的一生中大部分时间都在从事写作和编辑工作。他终身贫困潦倒。27岁时, 他和他的表妹结婚, 1847年妻子的离世使他悲痛万分。1849年10月, 坡逝世。

#### 2. 主要作品

##### (1) 诗集:

《帖木尔》

《艾尔·阿拉夫》

《诗集》

《乌鸦及其他诗篇》

##### (2) 短篇小说:

《述异集》/《怪异故事集》

《故事集》

《厄舍大厦的倒塌》

《红色死亡假面舞会》

《莉盖亚》

《黑猫》

《阿芒提拉多的酒桶》

《莫格街谋杀案》

《被窃的信件》

《金甲虫》

##### (3) 文学理论:

《创作哲学》

《诗歌原理》

## II. Selected works

### ◆“The Cask of Amontillado”

#### 1. Theme and style

The theme is about horror and death.

Poe pursues the style of shortness and fast tempo and to reach the climax quickly. To achieve the effect, he reduces the background information and the words he used are concise. In this short story, even nothing is redundant.

#### 2. Main plot

It is the narrator's account of his ability to carry out a chilling plot of revenge against his offender, Fortunato.

Montresor baits Fortunato by telling him he has obtained what he believes to be a pipe of a rare vintage of Amontillado. He claims he wants his friend's expert opinion on the subject. Fortunato goes with Montresor to the wine cellars of the latter's palazzo, where they wander in the catacombs. Montresor offers wine to Fortunato. Montresor displays a trowel he had been hiding and killed Fortunato.

#### 3. Analysis

(1) Precision in time, place, and setting precludes the idea of risk and allows the narrator both the retribution he seeks and the impunity he demands.

(2) It is set during the “supreme madness” of Carnival. In such a riotous atmosphere, it is easy to see how a crime could go unnoticed.

(3) Because Montresor is aware of the unfortunate Fortunato's impending death, dramatic irony also plays a role in the comedy of horrors of “The Cask of Amontillado”. Dramatic irony is the result of the disconnection that occurs when a character, namely Fortunato, is not aware of the true meaning of his own actions. The very setting of the story is ironic, in that Montresor has chosen the jovial carnival season to enact his murder because no one will be at his estate to witness the crime. Fortunato himself is dressed in a jester's outfit, and the jingling of his jester's bells reminds us of the atmosphere of happiness and cheer outside the catacombs. Later, as they drink the Medoc, Fortunato drinks to the dead and buried, not realizing that he is about to join them, and Montresor wryly drinks to Fortunato's health.

## II. 选读作品

### ◆《阿芒提拉多的酒桶》

#### 1. 主题与风格

小说的主题是恐怖和死亡。

坡追求篇幅短小而节奏很快的叙事风格,从而使故事迅速达到高潮。为达到这种效果,他减少了背景信息,并且用词凝练。在这篇短篇小说中,甚至没有一个词是冗余的。

#### 2. 主要情节

主要讲述了叙述者实施他的复仇计划,将冒犯他的弗图那多杀死的故事。

蒙特利瑟告诉弗图那多他买了一桶阿芒提拉多酒,但不确定是不是名酒,想要弗图那多去帮忙鉴定。蒙特利瑟便带领着弗图那多到了宫殿的地下酒窖,将酒拿给弗图那多看。然后将弗图那多绑在事先准备好的铁桩上,杀死了他。

#### 3. 作品分析

(1)精确的时间与地点减少了风险并使叙述者顺利实施复仇计划又免遭惩罚。

(2)在狂欢节“最疯狂活动”中实施计划,很难引起人们的注意。

(3)蒙特利瑟知道弗图那多注定要死去,戏剧反讽也起到了很大的作用。弗图那多并不知道他的行为意味着什么,造成了戏剧性反讽。故事发生的背景也颇具讽刺意味。蒙特利瑟选择在狂欢节实施他的复仇计划,是因为没人会注意到发生了什么。而弗图那多自己穿着小丑的衣服,小丑的铃声使我们想起狂欢节欢快的气氛以及地下酒窖外的欢呼声。当他们喝梅多科酒时,弗图那多并没意识到死亡正向他逼近,蒙特利瑟报复计划就要得逞。



## 2.2 课后习题详解

1. Who is the narrator? What wrong does he want to redress?
2. What is the pretext he uses to lure Fortunato to his wine cellar?
3. What happens to Fortunato in the end?
4. Describe briefly how Poe characterizes Montresor and Fortunato as contrasts?

### 参考答案

1. Montresor is the narrator. He had borne thousand injuries of Fortunato as best he could, and he decides to take revenge on him. He must not only punish Fortunato but punish with impunity.
2. He said to Fortunato that he got a pipe of Amontillado, and he was doubt about it, so he wanted someone to make sure for him. At the same time, he deliberately showed his doubts about Fortunato's connoisseurship in wine and cared about his health, which firmed Fortunato's decision to go with him to his wine cellar.
3. He was locked in the cellar by Montresor, and can only wait for death.
4. Poe characterizes the two characters with striking contrasts between them in many aspects. Firstly, their names are endowed with opposite symbolic meanings: Montresor symbolizes "monstrous", while Fortunato symbolizes "fortunate". Montresor is the devil in the story, and Fortunato is fortunate through his life and makes great fortune, but finally, he ends in a very unfortunate way, which is very ironical. Secondly, their clothes are very different: Fortunato wore "motley", while Montresor put on "a mask of black silk" and drew "a roquelaire" closely about his person. Last, their psychological activities and consciousness are in contrast: Montresor knows clearly what is going on and what will happen, while Fortunato is always kept in the dark till the end.

## 2.3 考研真题与典型题详解

### I. Fill in the blanks.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is regarded as the father of psychoanalytic criticism and the detective story. (首师大2008研)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is generally thought of as the true beginner of the short stories because he was the first writer who formulated poetics of the short stories.
3. Author \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ (南京大学2008研; 南京大学2009研)  
It was now midnight, and my task was drawing to a close. I had completed the eighth, the ninth and the tenth tier. I had finished a portion of the last and the eleventh; there remained but a single stone to be fitted and plastered in.
4. Edgar Allan Poe's stories fall into two categories: \_\_\_\_\_ and "tales of ratiocination". (天津外国语2010研)

### II. Multiple Choice

1. Mark the novelist whose major works are characterized by the elements of the "grotesque"? (四